

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-36 (canceled)

37. (withdrawn) A method of treating the atmosphere to catalytically convert atmospheric pollutants to less harmful materials comprising contacting the pollutant containing atmosphere with an outer surface of a motor vehicle component which has been coated with a catalyst composition selected from the group comprising base metals, precious metals, salts and oxides thereof and combinations thereof the catalyst composition being protected with an overcoat of carbon which is sufficiently porous to enable said atmospheric containing said pollutants to pass therethrough into operative contact with the catalyst composition and sufficiently protective to prevent catalyst degrading contaminants from contacting the catalyst composition.

38. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 further comprising coating the carbon overcoated catalytic surface with at least one hydrophobic protective material which is capable of substantially preventing liquid water and/or water vapor from reaching the catalyst composition.

39. (withdrawn) The method of claim 38 wherein the hydrophobic protective material is selected from the group comprising fluoropolymers and silicone polymers.

40. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein said vehicle is selected from automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles and trains and said component is selected from radiators, air-conditioner condensers, charge air coolers, transmission coolers and inserted devices.

41. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein said catalyst composition is selected from manganese dioxide, platinum, palladium and mixtures thereof.

42. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein the catalyst composition is supported on a material selected from ceria, alumina, titania, silica, zirconia and mixtures thereof.

43. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 comprising catalytically treating the atmosphere at temperatures of from about 0° to about 150°C.

44. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein the catalyst composition is selected from the group comprising base metals, precious metals as well as salts and oxides thereof and combinations thereof.

45. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein the catalyst composition comprises manganese dioxide.

46. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein the carbon is selected from the group comprising granular activated carbon, carbon black, permanganate on carbon and mixtures thereof.

47. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein the pollutants to be treated are selected from the group comprising ozone, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and mixtures thereof.

48. (previously presented) A device for treating the atmosphere to catalytically convert atmospheric pollutants to less harmful materials comprising an outer surface of a motor vehicle component which is exposed to a flow of ambient air, said outer surface being coated with a catalyst composition, said catalyst composition being protected with a porous overcoat of carbon.

49. (previously presented) The device of claim 48 further comprising at least one hydrophobic protective material overcoating the overcoat of carbon, said protective material being capable of substantially preventing liquid water and/or water vapor from reaching the catalyst composition or overcoat of carbon.

50. (previously presented) The device of claim 48 comprising at least one layer of the hydrophobic protective material coated over the catalyst composition or overcoat of carbon.

51. (original) The device of claim 48 wherein the catalyst composition is selected from the group comprising base metals, precious metals as well as salts and oxides thereof and combinations thereof.

52. (original) The device of claim 48 wherein the catalyst composition comprises manganese dioxide.

53. (previously presented) The device of claim 48 wherein the overcoat of carbon is selected from the group comprising activated granular carbon, carbon black, permanganate on carbon and mixtures thereof.

54. (canceled)

55. (original) The device of claim 49 wherein the hydrophobic protective material is selected from the group comprising fluoropolymers and silicone polymers.

56. (previously presented) The device of claim 48 wherein said outer surface of a motor vehicle component is selected from the outer surface of radiators, air-conditioner condensers, charge air coolers, transmission coolers and inserted devices.

57. (original) The device of claim 48 wherein said catalyst composition is selected from manganese dioxide, platinum, palladium and mixtures thereof.

58. (original) The device of claim 48 wherein the catalyst composition is supported on a material selected from ceria, alumina, titania, silica, zirconia, and mixtures thereof.